

displacing the parents, and being in omnipotent control of them—as they are felt by the child to be of him, in actual experience.

One of the favourite childhood games of an adult patient of my own was to stand high on top of his mother's washing-machine, pretending it was a tram, with the bell from his father's desk under his foot as the tram gong. Thus? he was supreme over the possessions of both parents, and, in phantasy, over the parents themselves. He could make them start and stop as and when and where he liked. And only thus could he be either safe or good. To be a child was (for him) to be *defenceless* against untold dangers ; and it was to be *bad*, since it meant being full of fear and rage and envy and forbidden wishes.

The reasons why children want to be " grown up " and powerful are thus highly complex, and some of these reasons I hope to make clearer later on.

Two reactions of Dan's are worth special mention. When Frank draws a crocodile on the floor, Dan immediately draws one too—" to bite Mrs. I." He did not dare to tell Frank it was to bite *him*, although Frank's action was the stimulus. But he knew it was safe to say it to Mrs. I., and so shifted his hostility on to her. It is pretty certain that he was playing for Frank's good-will, too, by seeking to turn *Frank's* aggression on to Mrs. I. (as is seen in so many of the incidents under *Group Hostility*).

And in the incident on 10.5.26, when Dan fell and hurt his head on the door during an angry struggle with Jessica, he at once blamed Mrs. I. for the injury, saying that she had pushed him! We can only understand this by seeing it as an expression of *guilt*. The accidental hurt became a punishment for his own hostility to Jessica. Here we have an illustration of what psycho-analysis has shown

to be one of
the most profound tendencies in the deepest
levels of the
human mind. In those levels there are no
"accidents",
no chances, no impersonal happenings—only
frustrations
and punishments by parents, »or by the
parental representa-
tive within the mind, the super-ego. It was,
however,
easier for Dan to *project* his guilt on to Mrs. I.,
and blame her
for the hurt, than to suffer the guilt within
himself. A
similar projection of guilt occurred in the
incident on 2.2.26,
under *Group Hostility*, as well as in some of the
incidents
under *Anal aggression*.